

**MINUTES OF THE
WORKFORCE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, July 20, 2011 – 10:00 a.m. – Room 20 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Stuart C. Reid, Senate Chair
Rep. Jim Bird, House Chair
Sen. Patricia W. Jones
Sen. Karen W. Morgan
Sen. Aaron Osmond
Rep. Johnny Anderson
Rep. Gregory H. Hughes
Rep. David Litvack
Rep. Jeremy A. Peterson
Rep. Dixon M. Pitcher
Rep. Marie H. Poulson
Rep. Brad R. Wilson

Members Absent:

Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson
Rep. Keith Grover

Staff Present:

Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen, Policy Analyst
Mr. Peter Asplund, Associate General Counsel
Mr. Robert H. Rees, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Karen C. Allred, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Reid called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

MOTION: Sen. Jones moved to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2011 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Utah Advisory Commission to Optimize State Government -- Briefing

Mr. Michael Mower, Deputy Chief of Staff/State Planning Coordinator, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB), distributed "Utah Advisory Commission to Optimize State Government - Report to Governor Herbert" and a copy of the condensed executive report "Progress Report on the Utah Advisory Commission to Optimize State Government's Recommendations." He presented an overview of the Commission's activities, which was organized by Gov. Gary R. Herbert and chaired by former Gov. Norman H. Bangerter. He explained that the Commission focuses on ways to minimize inefficiencies and deliver an optimal level of state government services.

Mr. Randy Hughes, State Enterprise Architect, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Office of the Governor, discussed five recommendations that the Optimization Commission determined would better serve the state's constituents, including: 1) continuing the drive towards improvement and restructuring, 2) leveraging technology and automation, 3) managing prison populations, 4) combating fraudulent waste, and 5) focusing on employee compensation.

Ms. Diane Ferguson, graduate assistant, GOPB, explained the activities taking place in the recommended areas outlined by Mr. Hughes. She explained that the Department of Human Resource Management contracted to study the balance between benefits and salary to determine the best combination for state employees.

Mr. Hughes further reported that the Optimization Commission is analyzing business process areas in state government, including the span on control of agency leadership, to improve administrative functions and interagency coordination and collaboration. As an example, he explained that the Governor's Economic Development Coordinating Council has been created to optimize coordination and policy development for statewide economic development. Additionally, Mr. Hughes noted that further coordination will be accomplished through the co-location of the Governor's Office of Economic Development; Utah Science, Technology, and Research's executive office; and the World Trade Center Utah.

3. Department of Community and Culture Restructuring

Mr. Michael Hansen, acting Executive Director, Department of Community and Culture (DCC), presented an overview of the method the department is using to study restructuring as required by 2011 General Session H.B. 287, "Restructuring of the Department of Community and Culture," which was previously distributed to the Committee. Mr. Hansen also distributed a document titled "DCC Optimization Study." He explained that the department is focusing on following the mandate outlined in the bill, completing the restructuring study in the time frame required by the bill, and making the process transparent.

Rep. Harper, sponsor of H.B. 287, explained that, by restructuring the DCC, he intends to increase efficiency and improve service without increasing costs.

4. Concurrent Resolution Supporting United States' Balanced Budget

Chair Reid introduced 2011 Second Special Session S.C.R. 201, "Concurrent Resolution Supporting United States' Balanced Budget Constitutional Amendment," which embodies support for a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The amendment would require the United States Congress to balance the federal budget and would restrict tax increases. Chair Reid explained the goal of U.S. Senator Mike Lee is to have three-fourths of the states pre-ratify a proposed amendment to communicate to Congress the states' willingness to ratify a balanced-budget amendment.

Rep. Harper discussed specific language in the bill, commenting that the bill is about fiscal responsibility.

Ms. Gayle Ruzicka, Eagle Forum, spoke in favor of the legislation.

5. Prison Relocation and Development Authority Act Amendments (draft legislation)

Rep. Hughes introduced and explained 2011 Second Special Session H.B. 2002, "Prison Relocation and Development Authority Act Amendments." He reviewed the changes made subsequent to Gov. Herbert's veto of the bill at the end of the 2011 General Session.

MOTION: Sen. Morgan moved to approve 2011 Second Special Session H.B. 2002, "Prison Relocation and Development Authority Act Amendments" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Other Committee Business/Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Pitcher moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Reid adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.